

# HOUSE BILL No. 1955

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 31-17-2-21.6.

**Synopsis:** Attorney's fees in certain custody disputes. Permits a judge to require a custodial parent who unreasonably interferes with the visitation rights of the noncustodial parent to pay the noncustodial parent's attorney's fees or reimburse the noncustodial parent for any loss of income incurred as a result of the custodial parent's withholding of visitation rights.

**Effective:** July 1, 2003.

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**Thompson**

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January 23, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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First Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2003)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2002 Regular or Special Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1955

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family law and juvenile law.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 31-17-2-21.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: **Sec. 21.6. If a custodial parent violates**  
4 **a custody order and unreasonably prohibits the noncustodial**  
5 **parent from exercising visitation rights, a court may order the**  
6 **custodial parent to:**  
7 (1) **pay the noncustodial parent's reasonable attorney's fees;**  
8 **or**  
9 (2) **reimburse the noncustodial parent for any reasonable loss**  
10 **of income;**  
11 **incurred as a result of the custodial parent's unreasonable**  
12 **withholding of visitation rights.**



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